

Melvin Price Locks and Dam UMR Mile 201
Auxiliary Miter Gate Failure
Weekly Status Report
10 February 2005

General Description: On 3 Oct 2004 the downstream miter gates on the auxiliary lock at Melvin Price Locks & Dam traveled past the mitered position, causing severe damage to the gates.

Tows Waiting: Traffic is being passed through the main chamber and no abnormal backlogs are occurring.

Communication Plan: The district has set up a web page for this incident that can be accessed through (www.mvs.usace.army.mil).

Risk Assessment & Mitigation Plan: A minor repair to the Missouri filling valve in the main chamber will not effect lock operation.

Helper Boat on Site: A government-furnished helper boat is on station. All approaching commercial tows are required to use the assistance of this boat at the direction of the Lockmaster to minimize the potential for damage to the main chamber.

Actions Performed This Week at the Service Base by the Combined Team Crews:

- * Installed temporary enclosures for repairs in various locations on the miter gates.
- * Completed prep for welding of the diagonal plate area for both lower corners of the MO gate.
- * Continued prep for welding of diagonal plate area for new material for the IL gate; 50% complete.
- * 75% of rail for the environmental enclosure completed.
- * 50% of safety handrails installed.
- * Began machining and fabrication of 4 new strut arms for the upper and lower gates.
- * Began layout and fabrication of the new bottom diagonal pin support boxes.

Actions Scheduled Next Week at the Service Base:

- * Begin installation of two 50-ft long environmental enclosures to partially cover each gate leaf.
- * Continue repairs to bottom seals.
- * Move temporary enclosure on the IL gate for removal of lower diagonal plates on last corner.
- * Start final fabrication for the removable seals on the both leaves.
- * Continue prepping for new diagonal plates on IL leaf; MO leaf plate prep completed.
- * Continue installing safety handrails around the repair barge.
- * Begin removal of quoin miter blocks and old epoxy backing on both gates.

Upcoming Significant Project Events:

- * Heat Straightening Contract awarded; making submittals; onsite work at Base to begin 22 Feb 05.
- * Environmental Enclosure second stage to be delivered by end of February.



Missouri-side Gate Leaf on repair barge at District Service Base - 8 March 2005
Corps of Engineers' Crane Barge FISHER and Deck-Cargo Barge 51 (at top)



Illinois-side Gate Leaf on repair barge at District Service Base - 8 March 2005
Corps' Towboat GRAND TOWER (at top); Derrickboat SEWELL's cab & boom visible (at right)